

substrate (10, 14), the pleats in the foil (20) being irregularly shaped and oriented.

REMARKS

Responsive to the requirement for restriction, applicants elect Group I, claims 23-35, drawn to the article, with traverse.

It is believed that the requirement cannot properly be repeated against the claims as now constituted, because claim 36 has been amended to be a linking claim.

Thus, the article of claims 23-35 cannot be produced by a method other than that of claim 36; and, so far as we know, the method of claim 36 cannot produce an article other than that of claims 23-35.

Therefore, there is not even one-way distinctness, much less two-way distinctness, whereby unity of invention is established.

In view of the present amendment and the foregoing remarks, therefore, it is believed that this application has been placed in condition for examination as to all the claims, and such is respectfully requested.

LOUART et al. S.N. 09/890,530

Attached hereto is a marked-up version of the changes made to claim 36. The attached page is captioned "VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE."

Respectfully submitted,

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VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE

IN THE CLAIMS:

Claim 36 has been amended as follows:

36. (amended) A method of fabricating a protection sheath including a substrate (10, 14) and a reflective foil (20) adapted to be fixed to said substrate (10, 14), characterized in that it includes the following steps:

- elastically stretching the substrate (10, 14) from a relaxed configuration;
- fixing the reflective foil (20) to the stretched substrate (10, 14); and
- elastically shrinking the substrate (10, 14) into said relaxed configuration in order to pleat the foil (20) on the substrate (10, 14), the pleats in the foil (20) being irregularly shaped and oriented.